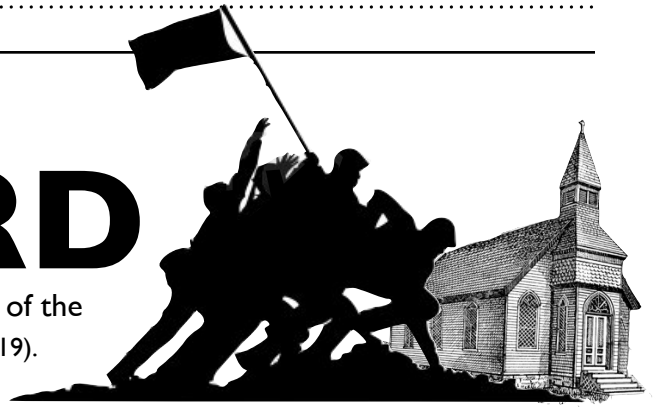


“Small And Despised”

“I am **small** and **despised**: yet do not I forget thy precepts” (Psalm 119:141).

Lifting Up The STANDARD

“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him” (Isaiah 59:19).



Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

Issue 28 - August 4, 2014

Despising The Day of Small Things

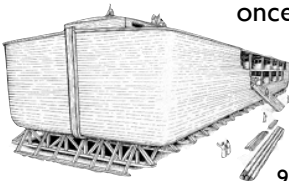
The Bible asks the question, “Who hath despised the day of small things?” (Zechariah 4:10). The answer to that question is almost everyone despises the day of small things. Small groups are looked down upon and considered failures; however, the Bible has much to say about “small things.”

Noah's Group Was Small

First Peter 3:20,

“Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein **few**, that is, eight souls were saved.”

Noah, and his little group were despised by the world until the storms started to come.



Hebrews 11:7 says,

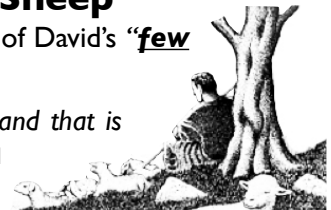
“By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.”

If it wasn't for Noah and the “**few**” who trusted God none of us would be reading this article today. The Bible says, “There is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by **few**” (First Samuel 14:6).

David Had A Few Sheep

In **First Samuel 17:28** we read of David's “**few** sheep in the wilderness.”

The Bible says Israel was “as the sand that is by the sea for multitude” (Second Samuel 17:11); however, it was the shepherd of the “**few** sheep” that saved the nation while Israel's multitudes covered in the caves.



Jeremiah 49:15 says, to be “small” is to be “despised among men.” Obadiah 1:2 says, to be “small” is to be, “greatly despised.” If you have a large crowd of people gathering in a building once a week we are considered successful and people will listen to you. You can expect to get invitations to speak in our national conferences; however, Solomon said, “Wisdom is better than strength: nevertheless the poor man's wisdom is despised, and his words are not heard” (Ecclesiastes 9:16).

God Knows Who The Faithful Shepherds Are

Year after year, hundreds of faithful shepherds have cared for a “**few** sheep” in hundreds of little towns across Canada.

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Continued from page 1

Solomon gave us an illustration concerning who we would not listen to.

Ecclesiastes 9: 14-16,

*“There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it: Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man. Then said I, Wisdom is better than strength: nevertheless the poor man's wisdom is **despised**, and **his words are not heard**.”*

Those pastors will not likely be asked to speak at one of our big meeting; however, the Lord knows, and will someday say, *“Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a **few** things, I will make thee ruler over many things”* (Matthew 25:21).

Nehemiah Had Only A Few Men

Nehemiah 2:12,

*“I arose in the night, I and some **few** men with me.”*

Concerning the few men he had we read,

Nehemiah 2:19,

“They...despised us.”

Nehemiah 4:4,

“We are despised.”

Jesus Had A Few Men

Matthew 9:37,

*“Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are **few**.”*

One of The Most Misunderstood Verses In The Bible

Matthew 7:13,14,

*“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and **few** there be that find it.”*

This portion of Scripture has absolutely nothing to do with anyone getting saved! The Lord was talking about the **“few”** who name the Name of Christ who are willing to enter in at the **“strait gate.”**

It is obvious that the message on the mountain was spoken only to Believers. At least a dozen times in three chapters Jesus used the terms that tell us He was talking to Believers. He referred to their **“Father which is in heaven.”**

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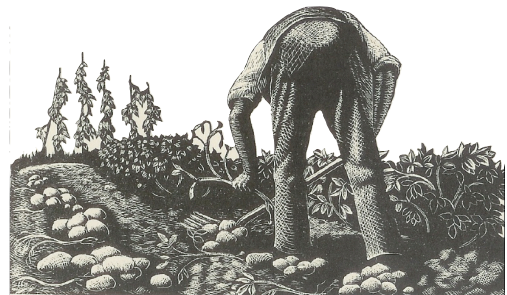
**Need A Little Encouragement
In Your Labours In Your
Small Church?
Listen To This Message!
“Picking Stones”**



Pastor David Atkinson

(Click Here For This Message)

“Some Seeds Fell On Stony Places”
(Matthew 13:5)



Click On The Icon Above

Continued from page 2

In verse twelve Christ spoke of their “reward in heaven.” In chapter six and verse one He spoke of their, “reward of your Father which is in heaven.”

Again, when He was on the mountain we read, “and when he was set, **his disciples** came unto him.” The verses below tell us Christ was speaking to Heaven-bound Believers.

Chapter Five

Verse 12

“Great is your reward in heaven.”

Verse 13

“Ye are the salt of the earth.”

Verse 14

“Ye are the light of the world.”

Verse 48

“Your Father which is in heaven.”

Chapter Six & Seven

Verse 1

“Your Father which is in heaven.”

Verse 32

Your heavenly Father.”

Verse 11

“Your Father which is in heaven.”

Christ would not have made statements like these to unsaved people. He was preparing His disciples concerning what they would face in the next three years.

Concerning Israel’s day we read,
Isaiah 1:9,

“Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us **a very small remnant**, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.”

Concerning our local church age we read,
Romans 11:5,

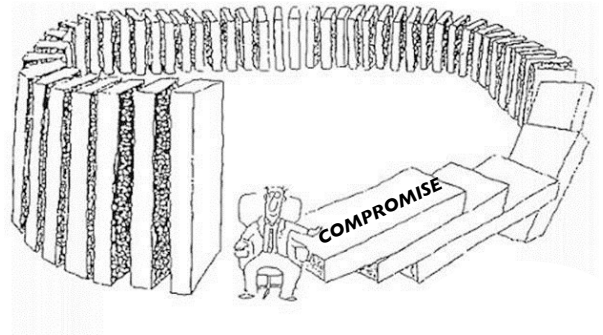
“Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant...”

The Final Word From Our Lord
Revelation 3:4,

“Thou hast a **few** names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.”

God Has Some Large Churches

We are not suggesting that God does not have some large congregations meeting today; however, we are saying and saying without apology, that faithful pastors in small churches are not despised by God.



Three Green Lights



DETERMINING GOD’S WILL
Looking For Three Green Lights
(Click On The Light For This Message)



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Sermons Downloaded: 14,965
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Church Membership

“Decently And In Order”

To be born again and have no local church structure could be compared to being born the first time and having no family structure

First Corinthians 14:40,

“Let all things be done decently and in order.”

I. Directions For Pastors

The instructions given to pastors are impossible without a church membership.



First Timothy

The key verse to First Timothy is,

“These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly...thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth” (First Timothy 3:1).

a. **Chapter 1:3, “That thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine.”**

The word charge has been translated “command” twenty times. Can a pastor command visitors who wander into the morning service?

b. **Chapter 2:9, “That women adorn themselves in modest apparel.”**

Should a pastor instruct visitors who wander into one of the meetings concerning modesty?

c. **Chapter 3:1, “If a man desire the office of a bishop, (pastor) he desireth a good work.”**

Can a man be a pastor if the church has no membership?

d. **Chapter 3:8, “Likewise must the deacons be...”**

How does a church incorporate deacons if there is no membership?

e. **Chapter 3:10, “Let these (deacons) also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.”**

How does a visitor become a deacon and how is he to “first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.”

f. **Chapter 5:17, “Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.”**

How do visitors determine a pastors salary?

g. **Chapter 5:19, “Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.”**

Can visitors find two or three other visitors and bring an accusation against a pastor?

h. **Chapter 5:20, “Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.”**

Do visitors get rebuked that other visitors may fear?

i. **Chapter 5:21, “I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.”**

How is the pastor going to observe these things without a membership?

j. **Chapter 6:20, “O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust.”**

It is impossible for a pastor can't keep that which is committed to his trust without a membership.